

MINUTES

SELECTMEN'S/ASSESSORS' MEETING

Tuesday, July 16, 2019

William Pullen Building Meeting Room

6:30 p.m.

Selectmen Present: Greg Grotton, John Shepard, Sarah Drickey, Adam Fuller, and Josh White

Others Present: Jay Feyler, Barbara Vittum, P.J. Jacobs, and George Ebbinghousen

1. Call Selectmen's Meeting to order: 6:30 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance:

3. Public Comment:

Barbara Vittum was present from 337 Common Road in Union. She would like to have a free outdoor wine tasting on Friday night, the evening before Founders Day. She is asking permission from the Board to be able to serve 4 oz. of alcohol per person. She will be following Maine alcohol licensing rules.

Discussion: Greg asked about carding guests. Barbara stated she must card guests 27 years and under. Josh asked about folks purchasing the wine and then consuming on the property. Barbara stated they will not be allowed to purchase product and open and consume on the property.

Motion by: Sarah Drickey to approve free outdoor wine tasting.

2nd by: John Shepard

5-0

P.J. Jacobs from Clarry Hill Road stated that she is happy to be living in Union for the past year and a half. She has finally received the town news via email which keeps her informed. She cannot say enough good about the staff in the town office. She appreciates their diligence and patience.

Selectmen's/Assessors' Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, July 16, 2019

4. Approve minutes of Tuesday, July 2, 2019:

Motion by: John Shepard

2nd by: Adam Fuller

5-0

5. Sign Treasurer's Warrant dated Tuesday, July 16, 2019:

Motion by: Sarah Drickey to sign both warrants.

2nd by: John Shepard

5-0

6. Vote to close on Tuesday, September 19 for Clerks Workshop:

Motion by: Sarah Drickey

2nd by: Adam Fuller

5-0

7. Grader use request from the Union Fair:

Jay stated that the Union Fair would like to borrow the town grader to grade the track. This has been done in the past but has not been done in recent years. The fair does let the town store equipment when needed, and has never said no. He wishes Rick Parent were present for this discussion.

Motion by: Sarah Drickey to allow Union Fair to use the town grader.

2nd by: John Shepard

Discussion: Adam asked who would run the machine. Jay stated Dana Kennedy. Josh asked if the rake would do a better job. Jay is reluctant about just using the rake because of the larger ruts. Sarah feels the town should let the fair use the grader. John agrees with Jay that the fair brings a lot of business into town and it would be a fair trade. Greg feels differently; he feels the town has lost taxes from a very large piece of land; furthermore, it has been closed off from the public for dog walking, etc. The town continues to plow and sand the entryway to the bridge. It is not an even trade-off. He is also concerned about the liability and insurance that is paid out by the town and if something were to happen.

3-2

Selectmen's/Assessors' Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, July 16, 2019

8. Discussion/Vote to move forward on Solar Project:

Jay suggests moving forward on the solar project as the Board has heard all three presentations.

Discussion: Greg feels that the Board should move forward; there still needs to be town vote. He likes the proposal by Electric Sunshine (Ray Montana). One of the two locations still need to be decided on, the new PW building and the old transfer station on Bump Hill. Adam also likes Electric Sunshine and agrees that there are variables that need to be ironed out. He likes the idea of having the panels installed at the old transfer station, which leaves room for expansion in the future. John likes the idea of buying the system outright with Electric Sunshine versus a power purchase agreement with the other two companies. Josh feels having the system installed by Electric Sunshine is less expensive and installation at the old dump site will be more economical over time. Sarah agrees that Electric Sunshine is more cost-effective. Jay reminded the Board that mowing the dump site may add to the cost of maintenance, and we still need to get DEP approval for the site which could take up to 60 days or better.

Motion by: John Shepard to give Jay the authorization to move forward with Electric Sunshine on either of the two proposed locations.

2nd by: Adam Fuller

5-0

9. Accept the resignation of the Union Health Officer Vicki Harriman:

Motion by: Sarah Drickey

2nd by: Adam Fuller

5-0

10. Town Manager's Report:

Garage update: Jay spoke with the adjuster today. They still have not signed the contract. He was told the old building will be torn down, and the new building will be up by the time snow flies.

Browns Lane: the demolition is underway. So far, 60 tons of material has been taken out which is equivalent to eight loads.

Intern Patrick will run the BOS meeting on Aug 6; Jay will be at an executive board meeting.

Jay will be on vacation the week of Aug 11.

Selectmen's/Assessors' Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, July 16, 2019

11. Other Business:

Jay stated an MMA ballot came in the mail. The board needs to vote for the slate of officers.

Motion by: Greg Grotton
2nd by: Adam Fuller
5-0

12. Selectmen's Report:

Josh stated that he has been hearing from residents that they would prefer normal sized 13-gallon trash bags from the transfer station. Putting two to three regular sized bags in a larger bag is difficult for some to lift and carry.

He also stated that he has been hearing more about “green” burial options in Union. He feels the town should be prepared to have the conversation. Jay stated that it is regulated by state law, and there are specific statutes.

Adam feels that town roads are an important subject, and it is important to him to try and help the cause. He feels that the current equipment is outdated, and changes need to be made in the future for more efficient machinery. In his opinion, new equipment would be more cost effective for the town.

John mentioned there will be a Tri-County meeting at the Union Town Office on Thursday, July 25.

13. Future Agenda Items:

14. Adjourn:

Motion by: Sarah Drickey
2nd by: John Shepard
5-0

Meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Patrick
Secretary